

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims in this application, reflects all changes currently being made to the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and all earlier listings of the claims:

1.-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) An image reader, comprising:

(a) a transparent plate adapted to contact an original;
(b) an image sensor unit including a light source adapted to illuminate the original, a reading element adapted to read an image of the original, and a housing adapted to mount said light source and said reading element, said housing being a rectangular parallelepiped and having a shaft or a bearing, said shaft or said bearing being disposed so as to be parallel to said reading element and being provided so as not to protrude from said rectangular parallelepiped;

(c) a holding member adapted to rotatably hold said image sensor unit; and

(d) a motor adapted to shift a positional relationship between the original and said image sensor unit held by said holding member, wherein said housing has a spacer which maintains a distance between said transparent plate and said image sensor unit.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

12. (Previously Presented) An image reader according to Claim 11, further comprising a biasing member disposed between said holding member and said image sensor unit adapted to bias said image sensor unit towards said transparent plate.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) An image reader according to Claim 11, wherein said spacer is integrally formed with said housing.

15. (Currently Amended) An image sensor unit mounted in an image reader, comprising:

a light source adapted to illuminate an original;
a reading element adapted to read an image of the original; and
a housing adapted to mount said light source and said reading element, said housing having a hole mounting a spacer therein, which maintains a distance between an original-holding plate of the image reader and said image sensor unit,

wherein said housing is movable relative to said original-holding plate in a direction perpendicular to a depth direction of said hole; and

wherein the image reader includes a holding member adapted to rotatably hold said image sensor unit.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

16. (Previously Presented) An image reading apparatus mounting said image sensor unit according to Claim 15, further comprising a motor adapted to shift a positional relationship between the original and said image sensor unit.

17. (Currently Amended) An image reader, comprising:

(a) a transparent plate adapted to contact an original;

(b) an image sensor unit including;

(I) a light source adapted to illuminate the original;

(ii) a reading element adapted to read an image of the

original; and

(iii) a housing adapted to mount said light source and said reading element, wherein said housing is movable relative to said transparent plate and has a recess on a side which faces said transparent plate,

(c) a slider engaged in said recess and adapted to contact said transparent plate;

(d) a holding member adapted to rotatably hold said image sensor unit; and

(e) a motor adapted to shift a positional relationship between the original and said image sensor unit held by said holding member,

wherein said image sensor unit is driven by said motor, for scanning the original, in a direction perpendicular to a depth direction of said recess while maintaining a predetermined distance from said transparent plate by using said slider.

BEST AVAILABLE COPIE

18. (Previously Presented) An image reader according to Claim 17, further comprising a biasing member disposed between said holding member and said image sensor unit adapted to bias said image sensor unit toward said transparent plate.

19. (Previously Presented) An image reader according to Claim 17, wherein said housing has a shaft or a bearing arranged so as to be parallel to said reading element.

20. (Previously Presented) An image reader according to Claim 19, wherein said holding member has either a bearing or a shaft which engages with said shaft or said bearing of said housing.

21. (Previously Presented) An image reader according to Claim 14, further comprising a biasing member disposed between said holding member and said image sensor unit adapted to bias said image sensor unit towards said transparent plate.

22. (Previously Presented) An image reader according to Claim 11, wherein said housing further comprises a hole adapted to mount said spacer therein.